



Mississippi Department of Human Services Press Release



Media Contact: Julia Bryan
Phone: 601-359-4517
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Distinguished Older Mississippian of the Year Announced

(JACKSON, Miss.) — Each year the Mississippi Department of Human Services, Division of Aging and Adult Services recognize an older Mississippian who continues to contribute to society through their passion and energy.

Today in a ceremony held in Jackson at the MDHS State Office, Mr. Ivory Sims of Marks was honored as Mississippi's Distinguished Older Mississippian because of his tremendous contributions and service to his community.

Mr. Sims was born on May 11, 1952 and went to school in Marks. In 1973, he married Velma and their 38-year-marriage blessed them with four sons.

At age 17, Mr. Sims joined the United States Army followed by service in the Navy in 1981. The Sims returned to Marks once his military service was complete and founded the New Life Church of God in Christ.

During Mr. Sims' life, he faced challenges but he never stopped serving in his community, assisting seniors and sharing his love for God. One of his greatest joys is to prepare and deliver meals to seniors and volunteer at local senior care facilities.

Mr. Sims enthusiasm for his community and particularly seniors has motivated others to get involved, serve others and work with the elderly population. He ministers to inmates in prison and he and members of his congregation have traveled to Africa to educate, serve and feed people there.

Mr. Sims plays an active role on North Delta Planning and Development District, Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council where he serves as an advocate for the elderly. The 2012 By U Magazine named Pastor Ivory Sims "Hero of the Year."

The Division of Aging and Adult Services and the Area Agencies on Aging which serve counties across the state, recognize the value that older adults continue to bring to our communities and are working to help older Mississippians remain vibrant in their communities.

For more information, contact MDHS or your local Area Agency on Aging at 1-800-948-3090.

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